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considerable weight. In the second place, claiming that those policies have been confined to wage-bargaining is not giving a just interpretation to American conditions, whatever may be true in England. Finally, as to the application of the remedy—with strong employers' associations that are doing away with competition, it is questioned whether employers would return to a competitive state just because such a classification was applied by the unions. It has not been shown that they would be sufficiently benefited by doing so. Moreover, unless the men were unionized and under strong control no one could guarantee non-interference on their part; yet Mr. Booth says non-union men could carry out his scheme quite as well as union men. Finally, the only guaranty that any of the results of increased productivity would go to the workers appears to be the not always assured good-will of the employers.

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*Social Forces in England and America.* By H. G. WELLS. New York: Harper Brothers, 1914. 8vo, pp. 415. \$2.00.

"An Englishman Looks at His World," the title of the English publication of this book, suggests more successfully the miscellaneous character of its contents and the rather cursory treatment of some of the topics. The first aeroplane, warfare, the contemporary novel, divorce, doctors, Chesterton, and diverse other subjects vie for attention with the labor unrest, social panaceas, the "so-called science of sociology," and a mildly sympathetic contemplation of American problems. To include all these multiform interests requires a broad reading of the term social forces. We find, however, a unifying idea throughout in Mr. Wells's insistence on a great national plan of social development to which all reformative measures must be properly related and in which every individual must participate. The men who today are decrying the inadequacy of unrelated and inconsequential reforms must approve this thought, even though they do not share in the author's vision of the Great State.

Mediocrity is the taunt flung at present-day English society. Overvaluation of the commonplace virtues of mediocre men is, Mr. Wells charges, responsible for the inertia and declining influence of his country. How true this accusation may be in respect to England's military prowess is even now being put to the test. The labor unrest he regards as an inevitable consequence of the idleness and extravagance of the moneyed classes. Limited as this analysis may seem, the corollary that "labor must be a part of every man's life and the whole of nobody's" gives succinct expression to a growing feeling.

Mr. Wells calls his work a diagnosis rather than a prescription, although we wonder at that considering his impatience with the "Planless Progressives." The book is, he says, "a fairly complete view of all my opinions." The author's eminence in English life commands attention for these views, animated as they are with his own particular originality and liberalism.